
UNCLAS

R 301234Z JAN 14

FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-1//

TO ALCOAST

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UNCLAS //N05355//

ALCOAST 031/14

COMDTNOTE 5355

SUBJ: TESTING URINALYSIS SAMPLES FOR SYNTHETIC COMPOUNDS

A. COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC 271750Z DEC 13/ALCOAST 551/13

B. Coast Guard Drug and Alcohol Program, COMDTINST M1000.10 (series)

1. The Coast Guard, in conjunction with the Department of Defense Services, will begin testing all urinalysis samples for synthetic chemical compounds, including synthetic cannabinoid compounds, ingredients in certain incense products commonly marketed as Spice.

2. REF A recapitulates ALCOAST 605/10 and states the wrongful use or possession of products containing controlled substance analogues, synthetic cannabinoid compounds, synthetic cathinones, and other non-controlled substances, with the intent to induce intoxication, excitement, or stupefaction of the central nervous system, is a violation of Coast Guard policy and subjects members to adverse administrative actions or discipline under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

3. REFs A and B clearly state, the wrongful use, possession, or distribution of these products is punishable under Article 92 of the UCMJ.

4. Some products containing synthetic compounds may actually contain Schedule I controlled substances, regardless of packaging or marketing claims to the contrary. Use, possession, or distribution of any material containing a synthetic compound, which is a controlled substance, may subject members to discipline under Article 112a of the UCMJ.

5. Specific information regarding administrative requirements for synthetic compound testing will be provided in a subsequent ALCGPSC message.

6. Leadership must continue to educate our workforce on the dangers of substance abuse and synthetic drugs. As a military organization with law enforcement authority, the wrongful use of mind-altering products is contrary to our mission and our core values. Synthetic drugs have mind-altering effects that can last for days, and members who ingest these products place the American public, their shipmates, and themselves in harms way.

7. Questions about new urinalysis testing procedures or the Coast Guard Drug Testing Program in general should be referred to CWO Antonio Varner, PSC-PSD-FS at (703) 872-6646, email antonio.varner@uscg.mil or SK1 Letroy Burgess, PSC-PSD-FS at (703) 872-6636, or email letroy.d.burgess@uscg.mil.

8. RADM D. A. Neptun, Assistant Commandant for Human Resources, sends.

9. Internet Release Authorized.

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